



## MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065  
Phone (323) 221-9944

### MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: March 5, 2008

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI: Consideration of resolution approving the application for Land and Water Conservation Funds on behalf of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for the Park Trail project and entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with California State Parks for purposes of developing this project should the grant funds be awarded.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution approving the application for Land and Water Conservation Funds on behalf of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for the Park Trail project and entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with California State Parks for the purpose of developing this project should the grant funds be awarded.

Background: The Park Trail project is a small portion of the Ballona Creek to Park Connection Loop project, an initiative of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC). The Connection Loop project will connect the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area to Culver City Park and the natural resources of Ballona Creek. The subject Park Trail project will construct a half-mile trail segment and new gateway at the base of State Parks' property, and also includes native habitat restoration.

The MRCA is partnering with BHC on this project because BHC is not eligible for the Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) program. The LWCF program provides matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. LWCF grants are paid on a reimbursable basis and have a minimum 50% match requirement. The sources of the matching funds for this project are native plant restoration and wayfinding programs undertaken by BHC.

The LWCF program requires that applicants show land tenure for the project. Therefore, it is necessary to enter into an Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with California State Parks. Should the grant funds be awarded, staff's intent is to subcontract with State Parks for the design and construction of the project components. MRCA will retain full responsibility for implementation of the proposed project and compliance with grant requirements.